



Regional Service Council Minutes Region 5

Meeting Date:

January 25, 2013

Meeting Location:

Department of Child Services
Tippecanoe County Office
250 Main St., Ste 301
Lafayette, IN

Council Members Present: Angela Smith Grossman, Regional Manager; Sarah Sailors, Director Carroll County DCS; Jennifer Johnson, Clinton County Foster Care Specialist; Paige Heath, FCM Supervisor, Tippecanoe County; Stacey Morgan, Clinton County FCM Supervisor; Judge Graham, Tippecanoe; Coleen Hamrick Tippecanoe County CASA; and Elva James, Director Benton County DCS.

Council Members Absent: Debbie Brenneman, Foster Parent; Barbara Bedrick, Director White County DCS; Penny Neal, Warren County FCM; Judge Rader, Warren County; Judge Henderson, Fountain County.

Others In Attendance: Tom Gilliam and dianna Huddleston, Wabash Valley Alliance; Hong Nguyen; Lois Logan-Beard; Sandy Lock, Director Clinton County DCS; Angie Guimond, Director Tippecanoe County DCS; Sonya Janssen-Luper, Director Fountain/Warren County DCS; and Pam Biggs Reed, Bauer Family Resource Center

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order at: 9:00 am

1. Minutes –

Minutes approved as presented

2. Review Region 5 Budget

The budget has been released for SFY 2013 and at present the expenditures are within the allotted amounts for all of Region 5.. Allocations are slightly higher than last year and no budget challenges are foreseen. Counties are encouraged to continue being financially prudent as caseloads fluctuate. It

should be noted that moving money among counties is not a problem. If needs are identified that are unmet, please bring those forward so we can strategize how to accommodate those within our budget.

Probation spending has declined a little in some counties. Benton County is using some probation funds. Homebuilders may be used in probation cases with Regional Manager approval and slot availability. This is non-traditional to probation so we need to communicate with them about the availability of this resource. Tippecanoe County Local Office Directors (LOD) will be inviting probation to our Region's next Permanency Roundtable session in February as there Roundtable process is beginning and it might be useful to them to be included in ours as a tool for their development.

3. Request for Proposals being posted for July 1st contracting

Child Advocacy Center –The Regional Finance Manager, Hong stated that a Request for Proposal is being opened shortly for Child Advocacy Center service standards. There has been some slight delay in getting that posted to the Internet but should be forthcoming.

Community Partners for Child Safety Service Standard for Region 5 has been posted to the DCS Internet. There was an option to extend the contracts or for regions to request new bids. Region 5 and one other region have requested new proposals. A sub-committee of Regional Service Council will need to assist when proposals are reviewed.

4. Discussion of Community Partners Data

Outcome data for the program was provided and reviewed. At past Council meetings reviews of financial expenditures have been the paramount information and yet data on referral sources, success rates and other items about the program processes can be accessed with some limitations and discussed.

The data presented could be a method to determine the program effectiveness and if referrals from DCS are appropriate and effective. The

current financials show that we have plenty of money and our usual challenge as a region has been having underspent budget in the rural region.

Some of the data that can be available to us is as follows:”

- Number of referrals received
- General sources of referrals
- Data on the contract components (10 in all)
- Chart on families that become substantiated on within a year that had 8 or more home visits with CP.

A request was made to obtain data from a region that might look similar to us geographically with a larger urban county surrounded by smaller populations. A request will be made by ASG to obtain data from central office in this manner to determine how variances might look. Additionally, work will be done with the provider agencies to determine what other data they may be able to produce about the quality of the program from the data system accessible to only them, Partnertude.

Clinical assessment during intake and again within a time frame. With a large pocket of behavioral problems the time frame would be longer than for the ones with housing problems.

Additional discussion by the Council clarified the limitations of the data and some considerations of the data.

5. Request to transfer Carroll and Benton CP monies from WVA to Bauer

A contract modification has been requested effective 2/15 for Benton County and Carroll County monies to be transferred between the current vendor contracts, from Wabash Valley Alliance to Bauer. The contract amount requested is \$35,000. This request is made based in part on the data that has been provided at this meeting as well as individual cases that have become problematic for the county staff. Carroll county can document a substantial portion of the current CHINS caseload as having been immediately transitioned from a Community Partners intervention. This data and experiences individualized within those counties has led to the decision to

move the money and request service from a different provider. Bauer is prepared to meet the need by the date of the contract modification.

6. Fountain/Warren anti-bullying convocation update

The Fountain/Warren County Director is working with Wabash Valley and the schools to have Jeff Yalden present an anti-bullying convocation. This will be presented to 4th thru 6th grades in Fountain and Warren counties. This would include 7 elementary schools, about 1500 students. It is a 90 minute presentation about anti-bullying, self respect and self esteem. The \$7000 request would be for ½ day at each of the four school corporations and a parent night, most likely at Attica Jr/Sr. High School. Jeff speaks nationally and internationally. The dates would be April 3rd and 4th, with parent night being on the 3rd. Regional Service Council voted to approve \$7000 for this request.

The next RSC meeting will have information about the function, goal and authority of the Regional Service Council along with a conversation regarding phoning in participation.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am

Next meeting is March 22, 2013 @ 9:00 am

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Smith Grossman, MSW, LSW
Regional Manager, Region 5